

II. Remarks

A. Status of the Claims

Claims 18-25, 28-35 and 50-52 have been cancelled without prejudice in response to the Restriction Requirement. Claims 26-27 and 36-49 were previously cancelled without prejudice.

Claims 8 and 9 have been withdrawn without prejudice in response to the Election of Species Requirement.

Claims 1 to 17 are pending, with claims 8 and 9 withdrawn. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by virtue of the present amendment.

B. Restriction Requirement/Election of Species Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that a restriction to one of the following groups is required:

- Group I: Claims 1-17, and 52, drawn to a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a substrate comprising an opioid antagonist;
- Group II: Claims 18-25, 28-34, and 52, drawn to a pharmaceutical formation comprising a substrate comprising an opioid analgesic; or
- Group III: Claims 35, 50 and 51, drawn to a process for preparing a pharmaceutical formulation.

In response, Applicants elect without traverse Group I, drawn to a pharmaceutical formulation comprising a substrate comprising an opioid antagonist.

Applicants submit that claims 1 to 17 read on the elected invention.

The Examiner also requested that Applicants elect either the species of the anionic polymer of claim 7 or the species of the anionic polymer of claim 8.

In response, Applicants elect species directed to the anionic polymer of claim 7.

Applicants submit that the elected species is encompassed by claims 1-7 and 10-17.

The Examiner further requested that Applicants elect either the species of the anionic polymer of claim 24 or the species of the anionic polymer of claim 25.

Applicants submit that the Examiner's request is moot, as claims 24 and 25 have been cancelled without prejudice in response to the Restriction Requirement.

III. CONCLUSION

An early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephonic interview will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,
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